

REMARKS

Entry of this response is respectfully requested.

In the above-mentioned Office Action, the Examiner objects to the subject matter of all claims presently on file (claims 60-69) as being anticipated or rendered obvious by Steidl.

Steidl is based on International patent application WO 03/072667 A, which was published in German language after the priority date of the present application, i.e., July 11, 2003. On the other hand, the effective filing date of Steidl as a reference in the U.S. is January 29, 2004, which is after the German priority date of the present application. Steidl's 2004/0192835 published application was published after the German priority date of the present application.

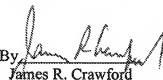
Thus, in order to remove Steidl as a reference, submitted herewith is a certified English translation of the German priority document DE 103 314 83.0, which was filed with the German Patent and Trademark Office on July 11, 2003.

It is also, therefore, believed that the restriction requirement should be withdrawn.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-0624, under Order No. NY-HUBR-1288-US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted

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Enclosure: Certified English translation of DE 103 31 483.0